

Memorandum

Howard County Fueling Station Task Force Meeting
Wednesday, July 16, 2014
Banneker Room, George Howard Bldg.

Start time: 9:04 a.m.

Members Present: Regina Aris, Rizwan Siddiqi, Sharonlee Vogel, Vernon Thompson, Meagan Braganca, Dick King, Jerry Lioi, Ron Meliker

Members Absent: Karen Hart and Barbara N. Seely

Staff Present: Theodore Wimberly, Jim Vannoy (OoLaw), Bob Lalush (DPZ)

Meeting called to order by Theodore Wimberly, Staff

Introduction of Commission Members

Election of Chair: Dick King, Chair and Sharonlee Vogel, Vice Chair

Presentations and Discussion:

Department of Planning and Zoning – Jeff Bronow – Gave a presentation on population trends in Howard County. The presentation centered around Howard County Census population and employment data. There was also a discussion of the impact that the County's Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance has had on population growth.

Action Item: Bronow would send his presentation to be forwarded to Task Force members.

Office of Law – Jim Vannoy – Serving as counsel to committee. Discussed the Maryland Open Meetings Law and the Maryland Public Information Act (PIA)

Discussion on the Open Meetings Law followed pertaining to:

- What constitutes a meeting, procedural requirements, when a Task Force meeting may be closed to the public and procedural requirements for closing the meeting.

Also, discussion occurred on the Public Information Act pertaining to:

- Public policy's inclination to favor disclosure of public records and documents, the scope of the PIA and what constitutes a public record. Vannoy suggested that Members create a separate email account for task force business.

Action Item: Vannoy would send a summary document of his presentation to be forwarded to Task Force members.

There was a presentation from New Entrants to the Howard County Market and Existing Fueling Station Operators. The “Ground Rules” were briefly discussed. Sang Oh did a 15-minute presentation for the New Entrants followed by a 15-minute presentation by Earl Adams representing the Existing Fueling Station operators. Mr. Oh handed out documents to accompany his presentation.

Action Item: Adams would send supporting documents of his presentation to be forwarded to Task Force members.

There was also a brief explanation of the New Town zoning process by Bob Lalush.

Action Item: The group would like a more thorough presentation of the New Town process by DPZ.

Task Force Member conducted an open discussion following the presentations. The following action items were requested during the discussion:

- Members wanted background information on the Costco project.
- Members want an Air Quality presentation from MDE officials.
- Members would like to know how many gas stations have closed since 2001 and why did they close and can the sites be redeveloped?
- Members would like to know a proper ratio between population and gas stations.

Tentative Meeting Schedule – Not established yet.

Meeting closed at 10:08am

-Submitted by: Theodore Wimberly